

# THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 2 Volume XXIII

February 16, 1994

## Hillary Clinton puts Fitchburg on her agenda

by Derek Valcourt  
Strobe staff

Hillary Clinton has not turned down her invitation to attend the March 23 Centennial Convocation and, according to Michelle Zide, convocations committee chairperson, it's on her agenda.

"We'll know for sure as the date grows nearer, we'll hear from them," said Zide, adding that the committee is thrilled with the possibility of Clinton's attendance.

As of now the ceremony is slated to take place in Weston Auditorium, which Zides assures will be standing room only. She acknowledged that if Clinton does come they will have to make alterations to accommodate her. Zide said that a

"Convocation Clinton Committee" would be established if The First Lady comes to Fitchburg and she believes that, if necessary, they could use the Wallace Civic Center to hold their event.

Liz Walker, one of WBZ-TV 4's news anchors, was also invited to speak at the Convocation. Zide said she could not speak to Walker personally, but the station will not schedule her for the event because it will be held in the morning. Walker anchors the news at 5:30, 6:00, and 11:00pm, too late in the evening to make her attend an early morning ceremony. Zide said she had no other way of scheduling Walker except for through the station.

"We are very pleased with the speakers we already have," said Zide, referring to the President of

Tufts University, John DiBiaggio. "It was the President of Tufts University 100 years ago who chartered FSC and the President of Tufts who spoke at the fifty year anniversary of the college. I think it is most appropriate the President of Tufts speak at the 100 year celebration."

Planning for the Convocations is already well underway. Color coded tickets are being used for seating. Faculty and staff are invited on an RSVP basis, and 100 student leaders who are actively involved in the college were personally invited. Seating for students is available on a first come first serve basis. 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30 classes on that day have been canceled to allow students and faculty the opportunity to attend.



Dr. Michele Zide

## ABC wins Excellence Award

by Theophilus Adjetej  
Contributing writer

Have you ever wondered how well you would fare against the "bigger boys" from other institutions? Well, the Fitchburg State chapter of Associated Builders & Contractors won third prize in the national competition of ABC Student Chapter Excellence Award.

The winner, Texas A&M, and runner-up, University of Florida, both have undergraduate popula-

tions of 30,000 and active memberships of approximately 100 members. This is in stark contrast to the 3,000 undergraduate population of Fitchburg State and its twenty active members.

The Fitchburg State chapter of ABC is the only one of its kind in Massachusetts, and subsequently was under greater pressure to perform during its first ever national competition of this sort. Fortunately for Fitchburg State and Massachusetts, the twenty active mem-

bers of this school are a very determined and focused group of individuals who maximized their resources.

Chapter president Richard Walsh, class of 1994, was aware of the differences between his chapter at Fitchburg State and the other institutions which have considerably more undergraduate students and a greater pool of alumni to choose from as potential guest speakers and advisers to their respective institutions.



Richard Walsh, President of ABC

## ACC discusses merger of television/film concentrations

by Jennifer Scull  
Staff writer

The possible merger of Film and Television concentrations in the Communications Department initiated discussion at the first meeting of the All College Committee this semester on February 2. Led by chairperson Barry Light, the committee discussed different changes

in curriculum and policies proposed by the college's faculty and administration.

The main argument in favor of this merger is that students need to understand the basics of both technologies because they overlap in today's job market. Also, knowledge in both television and film would be more appealing to students' prospective future employ-

ers. The committee voted unanimously in favor of recommending this proposal.

The proposal of a new course for this major was also suggested. "Introduction to Film and Television" would be a new course that would make better use of upper level courses and make the student more marketable. This proposal was also unanimously voted in favor of this

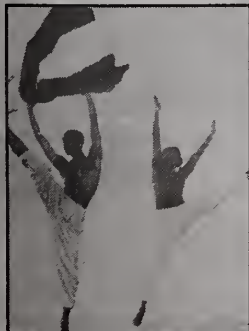
recommendation.

Professor Tod Slone spoke about the proposed smoking ban that would prohibit smoking by students, faculty and administration in all buildings on campus. A stop smoking program would be available to all smokers in the college community, as stated in the proposal #604. Questions arose as to which buildings, if all, including

dormitories, would be included in this ban. Further discussion on this proposal will resume at future meetings.

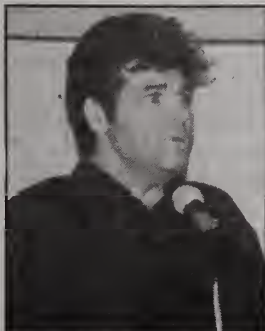
Many new proposals were distributed and will be the basis of discussion at the next meeting in March, including some to accept new courses on German History, American Military Experience, and the Holocaust.

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## Tourist killings not expected to impede Florida Spring Break



College Press Service

Tourism officials in Florida say that college students are expected to again flood the state for this year's spring break despite the murders of nine foreign tourists last year.

The tourist killings, which occurred across the state from an interstate reststop in the rural Panhandle to hundreds of miles away in Miami, caused many European tourists to think twice before traveling to the Sunshine State.

That apparently isn't the case for college students, at least in the eyes of tourism officials.

"It won't have any bearing whatsoever. Young people think they are indestructible," said Suzanne Heddy, vice-president of special events and tourism for the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce. "Spring break is such a phenomenon that it (crime) supersedes any type of consideration about not going."

She said that most college students travel in groups of friends and "will not be in the same types of situations that will put them in jeopardy."

Last year officials estimate that Daytona Beach attracted about 200,000 during the three week spring break period in March and

April, and Heddy said she expects about the same number to show up this year.

John Evans, with the Florida Tourism Association, said that he thinks students face the same amount of danger in Florida as they do on their campuses, so crime in the state shouldn't be a factor in whether or not they will visit.

"College people are pretty sharp people," he said. "I think they are aware that they are in no greater danger in Florida than where their campuses are located. I doubt seriously that what we've gone through will affect spring break, unless there is another at-

tack on a visitor."

He said most college students stay in a "pretty well defined" area where "the partying takes place."

I don't think they'll be getting in areas where they'll be in danger," Evans said. "They're in more danger of a pretty severe sun burn or hangover than being mugged."

Florida remains the No. 1 spring break destination for college students on spring break, according to Stuart Himmelfarb, vice-president of Roper Starch Worldwide, which conducts surveys for Roper CollegeTrack, a New York-based marketing firm.

In April of 1993 Roper Col-

lege Track surveyed 1,200 full-time undergraduate students, and 32 of the respondents said they had taken a vacation during spring break, with 29 percent traveling in the United States, of those students who stayed in the country, Florida was the No. 1 destination, Himmelfarb said.

He said lack of money, and not crime, could keep students away this year. But he didn't downplay Florida's crime. "There are a number of serious issues and concerns about Florida," he said. "If someone were to say to themselves, 'Should I go or not go?' this situation with crime could be the situation not to come."

## WITS explores power

by Kris Ruberti  
Staff writer

Women in Today's Society (WITS) sponsored a workshop entitled "Power is not a Four-Letter Word" on February 4. This meeting featured speakers Nancy Weeks and Khouri Carlen, who are concerned with power and the factors that concern women as a group.

The workshop consisted of four parts: the lecture, interactive, discussion, and activity. During the lecture, Weeks discussed the women's movement of the 60s

and 'power as oppression.' The 1960s had been a time of advancement as far as women were concerned.

"Women struggled terribly having no structure. They learned that structure was needed to move forward," Weeks said.

In order to make change, many steps needed to be followed. According to Weeks, "women needed get focused, share leadership, and learn followership." Participants in the workshop began to discuss some of the negative effects of power and to explore their own ideas of what self-empowerment means.

Weeks went on to discuss the differences between boys and girls at an early age. She said that girls practice learned helplessness while boys portray the opposite, known as mastery orientation. An example of this term is when boys say that "math is difficult", while girls say that "I'm not good at math."

Weeks wants to work on getting girls to externalize. "Somewhere along the way we lose our sense of who we are," she said, adding that the process is not easy. "The developmental journey is circular."

## Students unclear about what is dishonest

CPS

Students admit to cheating at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but they say there are too many gray areas about what is considered academic dishonesty, a survey said.

Students said blatant dishonesty such as cheating on an exam is wrong, but they had mixed opinions about collaborating and sharing homework assignment answers. In fact, 56 percent of the students surveyed said they were confused about what constitutes academic dishonesty.

The survey, conducted by the MIT Colloquium Committee, found that almost 45 percent said that copying homework that would not be graded was not considered cheating. Another 45 percent said it was trivial and 10 percent labeled it as serious cheating.

Students were divided about whether it was dishonest to get help from a campus computer

consultant for writing the content of a computer program for class.

Almost 80 percent of the students admitted that they had cheated at some point in their college years by either collaborating on homework or copying someone else's homework assignment.

Almost 70 percent said they collaborated on homework at least once, 45 percent admitted that they misrepresented or fudged data in a laboratory report or research paper, and almost 60 percent admitted to copying another student's homework assignment that was to be graded.

According to Norma McGaver, a co-author of the study, the surprise was not that the students cheat, but which students are cheating since there is a perception that some students get good grades through dishonest means.

"Some people think it's the best and brightest students who cheat, but that's not the case. It's

the students with academic difficulties who cheat," she said.

The study also found that the students with lower grade point averages are less likely to ask for assistance and may fall into a pattern of cheating as a way to get by.

McGaver said sophomores, not first-year students, were more likely to cheat. "There seems to be more stress because that's the year they pick their major," she said.

The survey was commissioned after a cheating scandal occurred on the campus in 1990. The scandal occurred when 79 of 250 students taking Introduction to Computers and Engineering Problem Solving were found to have cheated on a homework assignment. Students defended themselves by saying that cheating in one form or another was rampant across the campus. Many of the students said they did not think they had done anything wrong.

## Andre Dubus to speak at FSC

Press Release

Acclaimed writer Andre Dubus, who struggled for his spiritual and physical survival following an automobile accident that cost him the use of his legs, will deliver a free public lecture at Fitchburg State College on February 22 at 8 pm in Kent Hall of the Conlon Building.

The talk is part of the college's Visiting Artists and Lecturers Series, which this year is looking at "Health and Healing". The series is funded by the Fitchburg State College Foundation, the college's private fundraising arm.

Dubus is the author of eight books of fiction and a recent book of essays "Broken Vessels". He is a resident of Haverhill.

In addition to numerous awards, among them two Guggenheim Fellowships, he received a MacArthur Fellowship in 1988.

The college's lecture series will continue on March 2 with a talk by Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD, Associate Dean of the Harvard University School of Public Health and author of "Deadly Consequences: How Violence is Destroying Our Teenage Population and a Plan to Begin Solving the Problems."

### Name the 3 Rs

reading  
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revolvers



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# SGA Election Schedule

February 13 - 18

Advertising for open position

February 18 - 25

Nomination Packets are out  
and due back on the 25th

February 27 - March 7

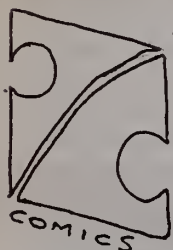
Campaigning

March 3

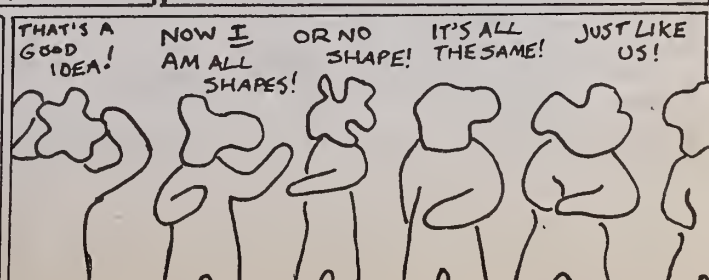
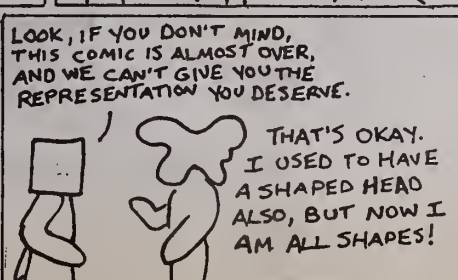
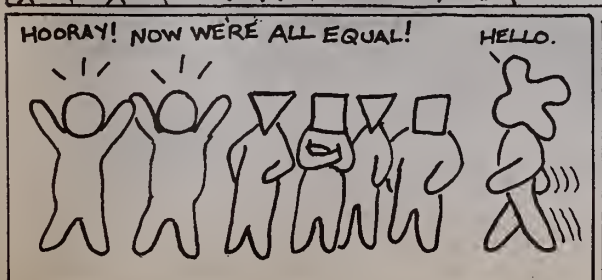
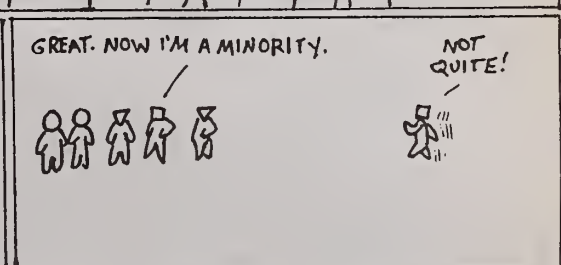
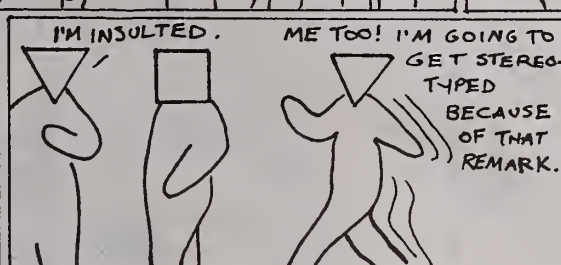
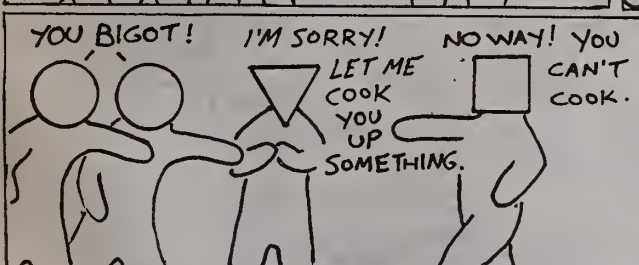
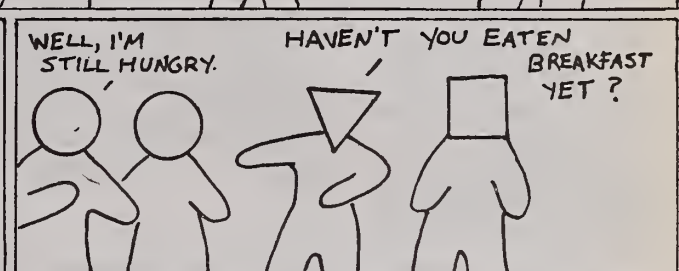
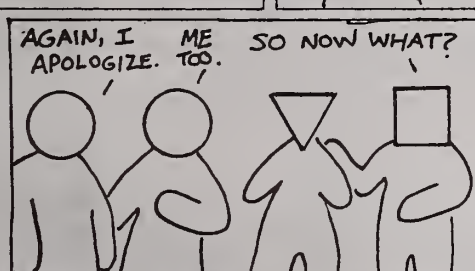
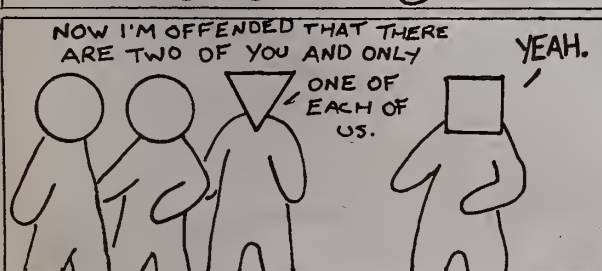
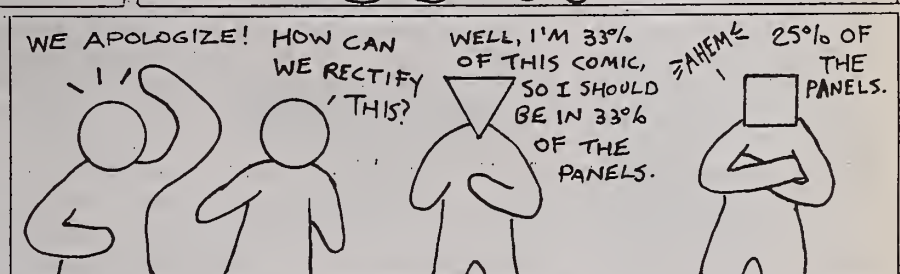
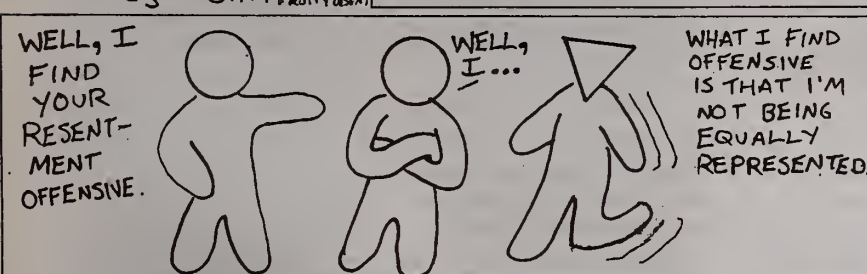
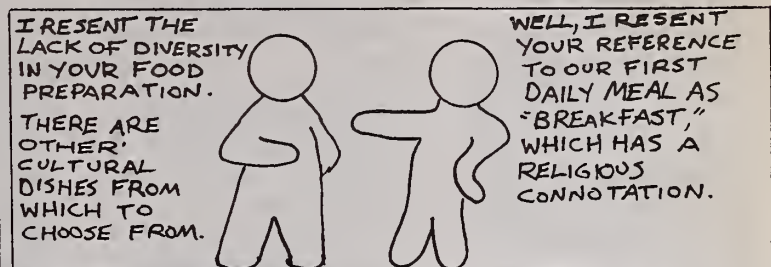
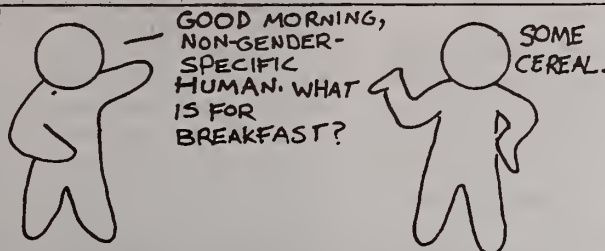
All Candidate's Hour - 1:30 in  
G-Lobby

March 8 - 10

Elections being held



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## Center builds Academic Success

by Mary Falcone  
Strobe staff

Nikki Brownell, coordinator of the Academic Success Center, describes the third floor of the Hammond building as a "very student centered place."

Skills building programs are taking place all the time. The Writing Skills Center, run by the English department, is staffed with English faculty as well as qualified peer assistants.

In the Math Skills Center a student can work one on one with individual tutors before falling behind in the course.

"Students are encouraged to bring their homework up here," said Brownell. "There is always a qualified peer assistant present during drop in hours to help."

"The focus of the Reading Skills Center is to focus on the specific capabilities of the student," said Brownell. By taking

a course offered at the Reading Skills Center students can expect to improve their reading speed and comprehension. In addition to this, upon completion of the course students receive one free elective credit.

One's study environment, time management, note taking skills and exam strategies are all factors of becoming a successful student. The Study Skills program focuses on developing these skills in students in order to perpetuate academic success.

In addition to these skill building programs, the Academic Success Center has developed Peer Assisted study sessions. These sessions are offered for many freshmen and include introductory level courses. Peer Assistants lead these groups, and help to facilitate proper organizational, note taking and study skills that will be helpful in that particular area.

Peer Assistants are students who average at least a 3.0 GPA, and have received either a 3.5 or a 4.0 in the particular course in which they tutor.

Often new students have trouble adjusting to the demands of the college academic workload, or choosing a major. The Peer Advising Program and the Undeclared Student Program have been set up to help students in these areas.

Also on the third floor of Hammond is the computer lab. The lab holds thirty IBM compatible desktop PCs and twenty-nine Mac LC II's.

The lab is open almost all hours that the library is open except during class times. "Any currently enrolled undergraduate, graduate, student, faculty or staff member is welcome to use the lab," said Brownell. A valid F.S.C. ID card is required for lab use.

## Express Yourself

by Jason Koivu  
Strobe staff

They're no Dead Poets Society, but every Tuesday night around 8:30, the FSC English Club gather for an informal reading and discussion of their own work, that of other authors, and just about any topic imaginable.

Now, about a year into the revitalization process, the club is growing in number as new members join and current ones continue to attend.

The idea behind this organization is that novice writers can get some feedback on their work and that lovers of literature can discuss the authors and works that they find intriguing. No pressure is put on members to read, as not everyone enjoys doing so. It is entirely up to the individual. Criticisms of those reading their own

works are usually kind so as to encourage the writer instead of discourage.

The relaxed atmosphere of the English Club provides an excellent setting for the inhibited artist to allow him or herself to open up and feel free to let their expressive side surface. Meetings are usually held in the privacy of someone's home. Since not everyone can make it to every meeting, there are usually between a half dozen and a dozen people in attendance which makes for a very intimate group.

The club is not limited to English majors alone; all are welcome.

Call club President Leo Bray at 348-1648 or Vice President Rob Haneisen at 342-7060 for more information on one of the more intellectually stimulation organizations on campus.

## Cookie sheets hit the slopes

by Diane Devitt  
Strobe staff

Walking up the hill to my off-campus apartment after our latest snowstorm, I was almost mowed down by careening sledders.

The thing that caught my attention (besides being almost leveled) was the fact that I couldn't see what these people were zipping around on. How were they plummeting down the hill? A passing reveler answered my quizzical expression. "Cookie sheets!"

Ah! Cookie sheets. How novel. Laura, a senior sledder, took time out to explain the concept. "We don't have any sleds. I brought one from home, an inflatable tube, but it has a hole in it. We looked around and decided kitchen appliances would have to work."

Do they really work?

"So far, out of a bowl, a casserole pan and cookie sheets, the cookie sheets are the definite winners," said Laura.

I observed neighborhood kids joining the college students. They

had actual sleds and were kind enough to trade off, taking a turn on the cookie sheets every once in a while.

Katie, a senior bundled up so much that I couldn't see her face, puffed up the hill with a cookie sheet in hand. "It beats carrying a sled."

A jump was built in the middle of the runway. Sadly, baking accessories were not made for snow jumps. They do, however, appear to be excellent for spinning.

Tara, a dizzy senior, advised that "if you spray the bottom of the pan with Mazola, it goes a lot faster."

Scott, one of the few guys in the group, informed me of one of the problems of cookie sheet sledding. "You fall out too easily because the sides are low. I keep going while the sheet gets a corner stuck in the snow."

All you wishful sledders now have no excuse for not heading outside. Who doesn't have a cookie sheet? Of course you won't do much baking with these afterwards. I've seen the wreckage.

## Barbaresi heads Campus Centennial Campaign Committee

by Mary Falcone  
Strobe staff

Dr. Patricia Barbaresi, a full professor in the Elementary Education department, was chosen by President Mara to chair the Campus Centennial Campaign Committee. The campaign was developed by the FSC Foundation in celebration of the college's one hundredth birthday.

The main objective of the campaign is to gain monetary support from the college faculty and staff. All monies collected will go towards merit scholarships, faculty research and professional development grants, advanced technology academic equipment, library enrichment purchase funds, and Visiting Arts and Lecturers Series.

"Some of these programs may

never happen if we rely solely on state funding," said Barbaresi. "It really makes FSC an uncommon college."

The campaign kick-off festivities were held in the Campus Center on January 27, 1994. President Mara and Dr. Barbaresi were on hand to say a few encouraging words to get the campaign underway.

All faculty and staff have received campaign packets which include pledge cards and informational flyers.

"The thing that is very unique about this campaign is that this is the first time that faculty and staff have been asked to contribute," said Barbaresi. "Alumni are asked to contribute in a different way. That is handled by the Alumni Office."

Thus far the campaign seems

to be successful, as President Mara's senior staff has pledged \$22,500. The overall goal set by the Foundation is to collect upwards of \$1 million.

In order to achieve his goal Barbaresi feels that "it's important to have staff support." Right now approximately thirty-seven staff members have agreed to help in the campaign.

During the next few weeks she will be visiting the various departments of the College with Ross Mauro, Director of Development.

"Basically, we will be visiting the departments and speaking with the faculty and staff with regard to their contributions," said Barbaresi.

The campaign is only a few weeks old, and is expected to continue through the end of the semester.

### Updates in African American Month

Tuesday, February 22  
Minority Job Fair  
G-Rooms, 9 am - 2 pm  
(postponed until April 13)

Wednesday and Thursday  
February 23 and 24  
Multicultural Crafts Fair  
G-Lobby, 9 am - 4 pm  
Sponsored by the ACCESS office  
(was not postponed as previously printed in Issue 1)



THE CURRENT INFORMATION HIGHWAY

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# FSC to present Alvin Ailey Ensemble



## Press release

The nationally acclaimed Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble will perform at Fitchburg State College on March 1 at 8 pm in Weston Auditorium.

The ensemble will also offer a free lecture demonstration at the Fitchburg Library on February 27 at 3 pm. In addition, grade school

children from throughout the region will be treated to a demonstration on February 28 at the college.

Tickets for the March 1 performance, part of the college's Performing Arts Series, are currently on sale at the college's Campus Center Information Desk, located in the Hammond Building. Tickets are \$10 for the community and \$4 for FSC students. Call (508)345-

2151 for more information.

Formed in 1974, the ensemble features a hand-picked group of outstanding students from the American Dance Center, the official school of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre.

The ensemble serves as a bridge between the school and membership in professional dance companies, providing members with per-

forming and teaching experience. More than 30 ensemble members have joined the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and many have joined other professional companies. Since its inception, the ensemble has won critical acclaim for its national tours, residencies and visits to public schools.

The current tour, under the artistic direction of Sylvia Waters, features a company premiere choreographed by Shapiro & Smith entitled "Dance With Two Army Blankets". Although this work was originally choreographed in 1992, two new sections have been created especially for the Repertory Ensemble. This acrobatic tour de force for six to eight dancers is a trust game for grown-ups, with men and women throwing each other between two large army blankets "with passion and breathless abandon."

The Ensemble will also present a company premiere by Eleo Pomare entitled "Hex", a work choreographed in 1966, with music by Harry Patch and costumes by Pomare. "Hex," explains Pomare, "portrays the nature of one woman's reaction to being

bewitched, or believing that she has been bewitched."

The Ensemble will revive a work choreographed by Alvin Ailey that will mark its American debut. "Escapes" was originally created by the Aterbeletto Reggio Emilia Italy in 1983, and is set to music by Max Roach with lighting by Chenault Spence and set design by Carol Vollet Garner. The Ensemble will also revive Alvin Ailey's "Reflections in D," a male solo originally choreographed in 1962 by Duke Ellington and lighting by Nicola Cernovitch.

The Ensemble will perform Alvin Ailey's "Blues Suite" and "Isba", Kevin Jeff's "Seeds", Kevin Wynn's "Guerilla Love Song Dances", and Shapiro & Smith's "To Have and to Hold".

The event is funded in part by the New England Foundation for the Arts, with support from Dance on Tour, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Telephone, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

The college's 1993-94 Performing Arts Series continues on April 8 with a performance by the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra.

## 'Recycle it baby'

by Mary Sperazzo  
Contributing writer

FSC is trying to expand their efforts to recycle on campus. With Matt Wilczynski on board as the recycling coordinator, recycling may pick up this year.

Matt is a freshman, film major from Milbury, Massachusetts who took on this endeavor as a work study project.

Recycling of paper has been practiced for a few years at Fitchburg State College, notably near the mailroom. Other offices as well participate in the effort.

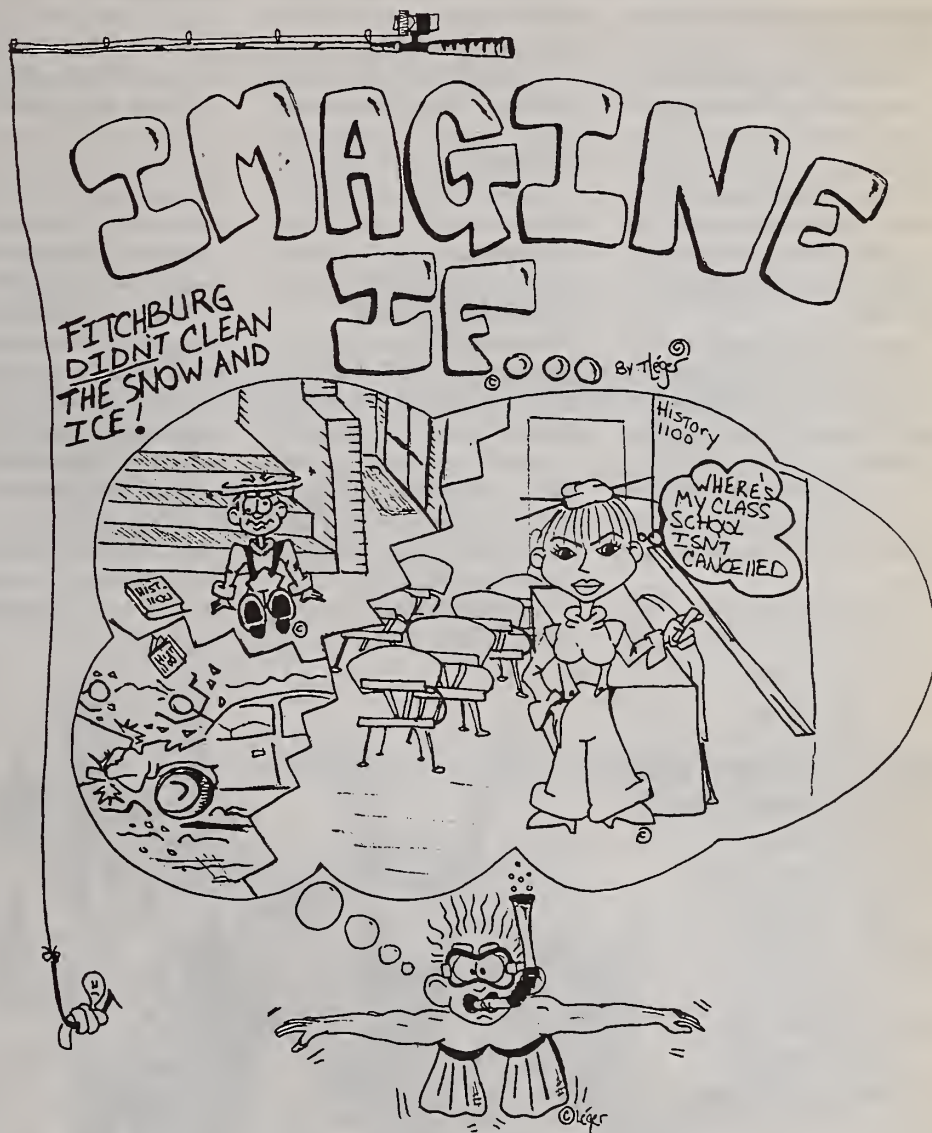
This year, Matt hopes to have at least fifty containers available to deposit cans and bottles for recycling and redemption around campus. Potentially, FSC could receive a decent sum of money if 500 students were depositing one to two empty cans a day into these bins. Calculated at five cents each, weekdays alone,

the total adds up to \$250.00 a week. In two semesters, that's \$6,000.00.

If there isn't enough interest in recycling cans and bottles on campus, Matt says "they can be given to needy organizations such as Fairmount Street Shelter". The shelter can then redeem the cans and bottles for cash.

When asked what would prompt people to recycle more, Matt replies, "probably when it (recycling) becomes a law". Matt says that certain products should be boycotted, such as products that are overpackaged and are not environmentally friendly.

You can receive a FSC "Recycle it baby" newsletter by dropping your name and box number to Matt Wilczynski at Campus Box 5841. Matt's office is located in the stockroom in the Anthony Building. Office hours are Tuesday, 11:20-12:30; Wednesday, 1:30-4:30; and Friday, 2:30-3:30.



## SUMMER DAY CAMP

Camp Sewataro, located on 75 wooded acres in Sudbury, MA seeks energetic, enthusiastic and caring individuals. Positions available for General Counselors, Red Cross Water Safety Instructors, and activity leaders for archery, boating, music and tennis. WSI courses reimbursable. Transportation available from many areas. Call 508-443-3100.



## THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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The Strobe is available in large print, braille, and on audio tape upon request.

## What Do You Think?

# Last Week's Results

Which do you feel is the most important news story of recent times?

1. The Menendez Brothers' Trial 5%
2. The Lorena Bobbitt Trial 30%
3. The Trial of 11 Branch Davidians accused of murder in Waco, Texas 15%
4. The lifting of a U.S. trade embargo to Vietnam 40%
5. The conviction of Byron DeLaBeckwith for murdering civil rights leader Medgar Evers in 1963 20%

## From The Editor's Desk...

The half-eaten orange lay buried beneath newspapers, tissues and Dunkin Donuts bags. Much of the trash that had been teetering on top of the overflowing pile toppled to the ground and scattered over the dingy floor.

A middle-aged man wearing a thin cotton pea coat with frayed sleeves and faded blue pants shuffled up to the barrel and peered inside. He rubbed his scruffy face with unknown days of growing beard and then plunged his hands into the bin. He pulled out various types of refuse and discarded them onto the floor.

Finally, he pulled out the buried orange. His formerly blank eyes lit up momentarily as he pulled the remaining orange pulp from the dirty peels. He dropped the peels back into the basket when he was done, rifled through the basket once more, found no more surprises and shuffled on.

I sat there for a long time staring off into space thinking about the man. Before that moment, my personal experience with hunger and homelessness was merely missing a DAKA meal because I was too busy in The Strobe office to go eat. How trivial compared to this man's life.

I encountered this situation with the homeless man when I took the

train to Boston to see the play "Grease". I saw this man in North Station as I waited for my train back to Fitchburg.

At first, I admit I was horrified to see someone eating a discarded orange from a trash bin, but then I really thought about it. Who is to say that someday my good fortune might change and I or my family may end up in this same dilemma?

Then I realized how little I know about homelessness and hunger. I spoke with Leif Utne, coordinator of FSC's MASSPIRG chapter, and he provided me with some useful and astounding information.

According to a pamphlet distributed by the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness (NSCAHH), "hunger has become a way of life for 20 million Americans". Another staggering statistic is that "at least one million school-aged children do not have a place to call home."

These statistics amazed me. I had never imagined that it could be so bad in this country. I guess the little suburb of Canton, MA sheltered me more than I ever thought possible. The most amazing thing I learned from this pamphlet is that "one person dies from hunger related causes every forty seconds".

Can you imagine? I certainly can't. The NSCAHH sponsors a

Hunger Cleanup. Essentially, students are sponsored for the hours of community work they spend painting shelters, cleaning playgrounds, or starting a neighborhood food garden. This program was created in 1984 by students at Aquinas College. For more information, call NSCAHH at (617) 292-4823 or contact Leif Utne, MASSPIRG, through FSC campus mail.

Reverend Benjamin Urnstrom, SJ of Xavier University, said that the Hunger Cleanup "takes the students out of the 'ivory tower' of student isolation and injects them into the world of the hungry and the homelessness."

I think North Station already took me out of my own "ivory tower". However, the Hunger Cleanup must be a real eye opening experience even for those who are already involved in the prevention of hunger and homelessness.

I'm not trying to preach to you about hunger and homelessness; I'm certainly no expert on the subject. I'm merely sharing my personal experience and what I have subsequently learned from it. If I have convinced even a few of you to become involved in the fight against hunger and homelessness, that's at least a baby step in the immense battle for community awareness.

## MASSPIRG announces clothing and food drive

by Chris Thomas  
Contributing writer

I am sure that most of you cannot help but notice the poverty that surrounds us. Many people don't even have a roof over their heads. There are also many families that may have a home, but not enough food or clothing. They depend on us for all the help we can give them.

Please, when you go home today, look into your closets to see if you can find something that you don't wear anymore. An old blanket may be nothing to you, but it may be enough to keep an infant warm. An old jacket may be out of

style for you, but it may keep a child warm on the way to school for an education. When you go to spend sixty cents on a candy bar, why not buy a can of soup that you could donate instead? It may help give a family strength to carry on for one more day. Each of us can make a world of difference, and think just how much that food and clothing will mean to someone who desperately needs it.

MASSPIRG would like to ask the students, staff, and faculty of FSC to help us with our annual food and clothing drive. Donated items will be collected and given to local shelters. Check around campus soon for more details.

## Artistic imagination is the answer

by Dana Dunham  
Contributing writer

These are difficult times to deal with.

Poetry is read as if Dionysus, the god of wine, is filtering into our glasses the viewless wings of poetic imagination. Where does the expression of the time lie? Wordsworth's immortal monologue of God's divinity is obscured with jokes of priests and their abused. Where do we go for faith in God, or is there truly such a thing? If there is an answer, it lies in artistic imagination.

We, as a people, elected a president who did not inhale, yet alcohol causes more confrontations and accidents than cannabis, and there's a liquor store on every street corner. As a society, we seem to be very confused. Human nature and socialization tug at our ends, pulling us apart. We want to act with open minds and hearts, but we are afraid to do so.

Where does the sin of society lie? Aids? Sexual preference and homophobia? Priests and children? Or the search for true love and whoever is able to find it?

The answer is where we find ourselves. It is an endless circle of right and wrong, hate and fear, and love and immortality. These are concepts left governed only by the arts, and if we could collectively look deeper into the artist's expression, then maybe we would find something better than we know.





# The Outer Class

by Eric Jackel  
Strobe staff

Living in Fitchburg can be, in many cases, a nightmarish learning experience for students who come from the safer harbors of suburbia. We can joke about it. We can print T-shirts that say "Friendly Neighbors" as one of the top ten reasons why we chose to attend Fitchburg State. The fact, however, one that is horrifyingly disturbing, is that there seems to be no decline or respite to this rapidly growing social and economic problem of poverty.

Something has drastically changed about lower-class America in the past half-decade or so. These people are now often referred to as the "Outer Class" in political, judicial, and media circles. This Clintonism, passed last fall, has epitomized the existence of the poverty-stricken and "urbanely challenged" (this is a Jackelism).

The American underclass has always been near the heart of our society, with dreams akin to the "rags-to-riches" American mentality. Their hope was once far greater than any other, their determination unshakable. I guess the days of Huck and Jim are long behind the times.

As I have made my way through the streets of Fitchburg for nearly four years now, I have noticed little of this great hope and these noble dreams. What I have noticed on the faces of these people is anger, hatred, and a desire not to become a success in society, but rather to become a colonial society in themselves, set apart from the world. I see a contempt for myself and other students, mainly because we're walking the streets of their neighborhoods, and this is only our home for a few years. I see the administration trying to govern our off-campus lives, not so much in a power move, but rather to reduce incidents

and subsequent bad press.

Their proposed solutions, along with others, have done little to mend our little corner of a very broken world. As crime increases, the judicial system collapses on itself, thus rendering the courts obsolete. Witnesses and even victims don't show up to hearings, leaving judges and attorneys twiddling their thumbs. A general unfamiliarity with the political system, falling numbers of voters, a steadily dropping mean income... The list seems endless.

The result? A detached part of society, living with its own rules, laws, and structure, co-existing with the mainstream in a dangerous synthesis. With threats of blowing each other up on a global scale greatly reduced, and science taking on environmental issues with steady hope and progress, I would certainly say that the greatest threat to the human race is the human race. We'll make great pets.

# Clock confusion

by Jean-Claude Bouvier  
Contributing writer

It's 10:30 and I'm late to class according to the clock in G-Lobby. I dash through the halls, almost breaking my neck trying to get around that interesting, yet irregular brick partition in the middle of my way, jog up the stairs of Thompson Hall and fall breathlessly into myself. I look up at the clock in T102 and it says that the time is 10:23. The professor strolls gingerly in at 10:35. You do the math.

Not that I couldn't use the time in a more constructive fashion, I could, and I would have if I knew I'd had it. Hey, I could see maybe one clock a few minutes off in one classroom of our preferred deity's choice. Unfortunately you must understand, that I'm not sure if I'm late because I'm not sure whether the clock in Edgerly is fast or slow compared to the clock in the IA building, or if I'm late because of my wanting to spend a couple or few minutes talking to a

teacher or a friend. Because of this I feel I have earned my right as an individual who respects most of the laws of decent citizenry to express my angst.

It's a question of theory versus reality. If in theory I have ten minutes to get to a class from my last class, yet Clock A reads 10:20 and Clock B reads 10:24, reality dictates that I suffer the punishment of not being able to test my experiment. Meaning that I only have six minutes to get to a class that I should have ten minutes to get to. What's my point?

Is it too much to ask our maintenance staff to set one portable clock, like a watch, to the correct time, and then set all the other clocks according to that clock? I think not. Not that I'm complaining about our maintenance staff; they do a hell of a job and I thank them every semester for it, with cash. I have a multitude of other petty concerns to consider and this particular one I would like to see gone from my list.

## Ice storm created avoidable hassle

Cynthia Trainque  
Strobe staff

Why did we have school during the ice-storm on Friday, Jan. 26? Everyone knows that the majority of the students are commuters and, of these, there are precious few who can afford the luxury of four-wheel drive. Many have to put up with bald tires to offset paying for tuition, room and board and other necessities. When do these people get taken into consideration? For myself, I live a good 20 minute walk away. It was just as dangerous for me to have to walk that day as it was for people to be out in their cars. But, knowing that I had a quiz at 8:30 a.m., I went to school.

Most parking lots had not been plowed out and there was hardly any sand at all. While this was very frustrating, it was the view from the second floor of Percival that really prompted me to write this.

I was 20 minutes early for my class and was greeted by the only other student who had made it in so far. She had been looking out the window when she noticed a student in a wheelchair having trouble with her vehicle. She drove it down Highland Avenue and attempted to enter the parking lot between Percival and Miller Hall. Nothing doing: the snow pushed to the side

by the plows prevented her from getting into the parking lot. It was then that she either got stuck or the wheelchair battery died and so she got out of the vehicle and stood beside it, hoping someone would see her plight and offer assistance. No one did.

From the second floor of Percival we watched in disgust as faculty and staff members in their nice warm cars (driving right past her within 3 feet) and dashed for the warm comfort of classrooms or offices. After three minutes of observing the situation I was quite angry at the insensitivity of those who went right past her. I grabbed my jacket and said to the other student, "I'm going to help, if the professor wants to mark me absent or late, let her."

By the time I had reached the driver of the backhoe had put her wheelchair into the bucket and drove it to who knows where. At this point, that it's not the important part. What matters is that someone cared enough to stop and extend a hand.

Regrettably, I don't know the name of the student with the wheelchair, but I hope your vehicle is up to par now. I'm sorry that you were by-passed by so many. Please forgive us. Money is not the root of all evil, indifference is.

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## What do you think?

What do you find to be the most disturbing problem at FSC?

1. Racism

☐

2. Alcohol and Drug Abuse

☐

3. Homophobia

☐

4. Apathy

☐

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# Comedy Night provides steady laughs



Comedian Steve Bjork

photo by Eric Metzner

by Jennifer Schnorrenberg  
Strobe staff

On February 3, the Programs Committee sponsored Comedy Night in the Union Stop Pub. The first comedian, Steve Bjork had the packed audience roaring throughout the whole show. However, one had to be quick on their feet to catch on to some of the jokes.

Bjork is a local circuit comedian and has decided to stay away from the N.Y. and L.A. scene for a while. His favorite memory from a show is when he was in South Bend, Indiana playing at some "hole in the wall bar" with students from Notre Dame in attendance. The bar was serving shots when one of the students

came up with the bright idea of doing flaming shots. The next thing he knew the table was on fire. Not knowing what to do, he thought of two things, "Whether to tell them to leave single file and grab the bottles," or just wait and see. Meanwhile, the bartender nonchalantly wandered over with the fire extinguisher and put out the blaze. Needless to say, the students got a free round of shots and Bjork's act "had gone down in flames."

The headliner was Tony V., who was just as enjoyable as the first comedian. He was able to use his surrounding environment in many of his jokes. He has played in several major spots such as The Improve, Guntherie Theatre and Caroline's Comedy Hour, but says that he likes playing at FSC because

the students tend to be responsive and "it's a great place to work."

His favorite memory is from three years ago when he was playing at the Comedy Connection in Boston. A man from Maine had gotten fed up with work and decided to quit. When he heard that Tony was playing that day he drove from Maine to see him, knowing that he would cheer him up. After the show the two men traded their shirts. Tony likes the memory because he feels that he was able to cheer up the man.

As people were leaving I heard several saying that "he's wicked funny." I found Comedy Night enjoyable as always.

The next Comedy Night will be held on February 17, in the Pub.

## 'Naked' is raw

by Warren Curry  
Contributing writer

Frank, brutal and honest, "Naked", the latest film by Mike Leigh, isn't an easy experience to endure. Leigh, currently British alternative cinema's most significant filmmaker, paints a gritty, dismal and disturbing portrait of life in economically depraved London. With an intensity not translated to the screen in years, Leigh has created an original, fully realized work, which should bring him some well deserved attention outside of his native country.

Through the story of Johnny (David Thewlis), a witty, articulate, yet manipulative wanderer, who stumbles into London to visit his estranged former girlfriend Louise (Lesley Sharp), the film depicts a cold reality, which Leigh implies, lies within the depths of the human soul. Johnny, not finding Louise at home, seduces her drug abusing roommate Sophie (Katrin Cartlidge). After this incident Sophie declares her everlasting love for Johnny, who at this point decides to hit the road, though not before making Sophie the target of his physical and mental abuse.

The rest of the film follows Johnny as he travels around London and meets up with a variety of oddball characters, whom he first connects with and then ultimately exploits. By the film's end things have gotten neither better nor worse for Johnny; he's still the hopelessly lost misfit, who truly has no place in the world he inhabits.

Those looking for a tight narrative or discernible plot will be disappointed. This film is a powerful character study and with most movies of this nature, there

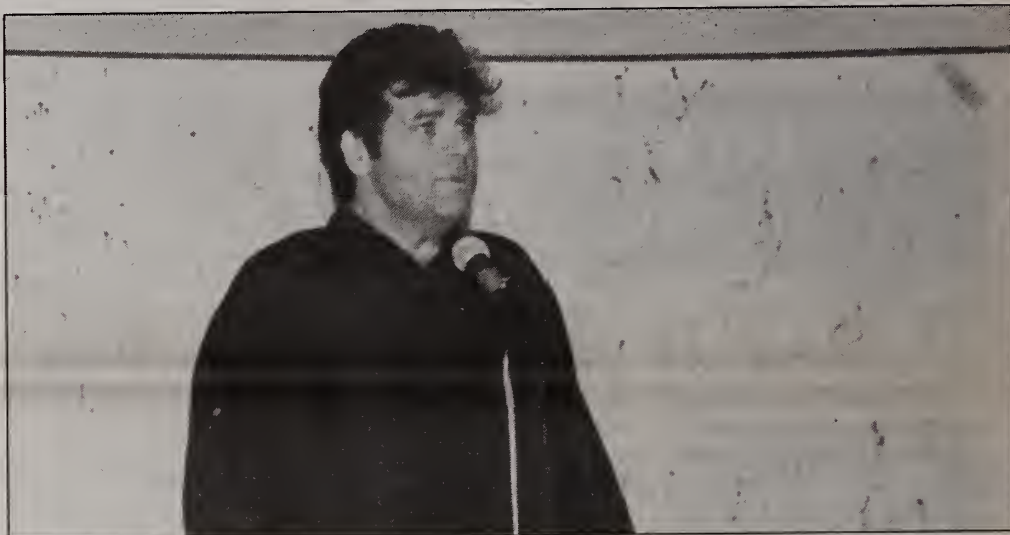
are some moments that seem to ramble on with little or no point. However, these passages serve to increase the richness of the characterizations and that's where the real power of this film is contained.

"Naked" does have flaws, such as the inclusion of a few unnecessary characters, some scenes which appear as if they were composed for the theater, and a bit of exaggerated acting. In this case, though, the positives more than outweigh the negatives.

Thewlis turns in an absolutely searing performance in the lead role, which won him the best actor award at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival. He is able to brilliantly portray the complexity of his character, the savage genius, who seems to view his abuse of others as a justified protest against a society which shunned his intelligence. Also notable is Cartlidge, as Sophie, the downright pathetic human punching bag.

Leigh's directing is nothing less than superb. He places little restraint on his actors, allowing them to naturally play off one another, which lends the film an almost John Cassavetes like quality. Leigh also borrows the Godard-ian technique of letting the characters spout off fragments of philosophy in their dialogue. Both of these elements find a striking expression in "Naked", proving that it's a film to be studied, more so than to be enjoyed.

"Naked" is not an easy film to like (in the most superficial sense of the word), but it's a thought provoking, undeniably challenging work. Slated to open in Boston by the end of February, it's a must see for the serious moviegoer. In a purely artistic sense, "Naked" is hands down the most important film of 1993.



Comedian Tony V

photo by Eric Metzner

## Sparse crowd receives a treat from Gaudet

by Eric Hellweg  
Staff writer

On Friday, February 4th, Dave Gaudet performed a soothing mix of mellow, acoustic numbers to all of six people in the Union Stop Pub.

The poor attendance was not due to any lack of talent or skill on Gaudet's part, he was extremely competent on the guitar and his voice was impeccable. The few number of patrons was due to the absence of visible advertising for the event. Unless you scrutinized the weekly calendar the Campus Center put out, there was no way of knowing about the show.

Gaudet kicked it off with a

couple James Taylor numbers, to which his voice was a perfect match. He had an equally impressive high range as his voice soared during Simon and Garfunkel's "Homeward Bound." Gaudet's between-song banter was understandably about the lackluster attendance, but the few people that were there made sure to applaud heartily after songs to try and fill the cavernous pub with gratitude.

Before taking a break, Gaudet offered up a couple of original numbers, both of which showcased his fine guitar playing ability and made apparent his songwriting talents. Gaudet's repertoire is strictly confined to mellow and easy going songs in the James Taylor, Cat

Stevens and Beatles mode, and at times one longed for a more current or upbeat selection. Within these confines, however, Gaudet performs admirably well; he has found his niche and doesn't want to break it.

If the people in charge of booking these events are interested in anything other than throwing away what is ultimately our money, it would behoove them to advertise their events via posters and/or flyers. If the administration is serious about offering entertainment on-campus to control student drinking, they need to make sure promotion is being done. It is not fair to hire a performer and not promote the event.



# Colonial Theatre showcases hit play

by Kristi Widberg  
Strobe staff

Pink satin. Black leather. Rosie O'Donnell. Exactly what kind of combination do we have here?

The perfect one. Pink satin and black leather were O'Donnell's "uniform" as the ringleader of the Pink Ladies in the production of "Grease" at the Colonial Theatre.

When I first sat down at the beginning of the play, I wasn't sure what to expect. I had visions of Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta prancing their way across Rydell High's gym and Frankie Avalon crooning "Beauty School Dropout" to a teenager with Easter egg pink hair.

When the curtain rose, I saw an adaptation of "Grease" that had never crossed my mind. Each artist tends to adapt a work of art to his own vision and, in this case, the Colonial Theatre showcased a fantastic performance on February 8.

Some of the original songs were replaced by new ones, or at least given new flair.

Examples of this are the song "Freddie My Love", sung by one of the Pink Ladies, Marty, and

"Mooning", sung by Roger and Jan. "Since I Don't Have You" replaced "Hopelessly Devoted To You".

An excellent change in the original version of "Grease" was in the choice of Kenickie, played by Jason Opsahl, singing "Greased Lightning" rather than Danny Zuko. It made a lot more sense and highlighted Opsahl's sexy stage presence.

Another eye opening change was Billy Porter's rendition of "Beauty School Dropout". Sporting one-foot-high, orange, plastic hair, Porter added some soul into Avalon's previously mellow routine.

Susan Wood performed a convincing role as sweet, innocent Sandra Dee. Her voice almost rivalled Olivia Newton-John's as she sang "Summer Nights". H. Hylan Scott II, who stepped in as Danny Zuko, gave a stunning performance as the tough yet tender-hearted T-Bird. Zuko's part was normally played by Ricky Paull Goldin; for unknown reasons, Goldin was unable to perform that night. The rest of the staff were convincing and fun to watch in

their respective characters, but the big surprise of the night was Rosie O'Donnell.

O'Donnell, who played Betty Rizzo, was well-cast as the tough, smart-mouth Pink Lady who has a sarcastic comment for everything. It was tough at first to get past seeing Rosie O'Donnell as anything but herself, but her sardonic, stand-up comedian personality fit the part perfectly. Her sarcasm was showcased to a tee in Rizzo's one-liners. The voice that I was normally accustomed to coming from O'Donnell in her stand-up was replaced by a singing voice that belted out notes I could not believe came from her. Her voice soared in her solo "There are Worse Things I Could Do" and Susan Wood complimented O'Donnell's lower pitched voice as they sang a reprise of "Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee".

The scenes were altered in sequence, some scenes were excluded, and some new scenes were created, but altogether the overall effect was magical. I came to the play with a preconceived notion of a replica of the movie, but was pleasantly rewarded with a refreshing change of pace.



# 'Tool' is impressive equipment



by Jason Koivu  
Strobe staff

It's taken them a little while, but Tool recently made their mark on musical history with their first full-length recording, *Undertow*.

Guitarist Adam Jones, singer Maynard James Keenan, drummer Danny Carey, and bassist Paul D'Amour banded together in L.A.

circa 1986.

"Tool began as a self-satisfying thing for us," admits Carey. "Our music was a release and a vehicle to get out whatever tensions we were feeling at that time."

Many years later and after the release of an EP entitled, *Opiate*, the band has climbed into the lime-light.

You probably know them best for their hit single "Sober" and that's too bad. It's a good song, but Tool's music is less mainstream than that radio-burned-out number would lead you to believe. Songs like "Bottom", "Crawl Away", and the title track are better representations of Tool's sound.

Intensity is the key word.

Heavy, but not over-bearingly loud, Tool is a band that knows when to smack you upside the head and when to let it be. Keenan's vocals soar and dive with the grace and menace of a hawk on the hunt, while Jones' riffs are straight forward and strong. Equally impressive is D'Amour and Carey's backing support which lays out and holds together the foundation of just about every song.

An appearance by singer/songwriter Henry Rollins sheds some light on the possible influences in Tool's music. The outspoken performer stepped in to help write a song and add a spoken-word spot on "Bottom" which in itself was only mediocre. However, his brief appearance on *Undertow* seemed to have lasting effects on the whole CD. The lyrics and style in which Keenan delivered them is similar to Rollins, although Keenan has a further vocal range than the old vet.

The only misgivings I found with this CD were with the repetitiveness of some of Jones' riffs. But even if his playing lacks a little of that late-eighties, Steve Vai,

Yngwie Malmsteen guitar solo flourish, it's probably for the best, because these songs don't get boring. Listening, you hardly even notice the repeated chord progressions. Besides, who wants to hear another manufactured guitar solo, the likes of which were so prevalent during the 'hair-band' era.

*Undertow* is also equipped with its fair share of disturbing audio and visuals. Note the inner jacket cover, but don't say I didn't warn you. And the fifteen minute long "Disgustipated" you may find to be both hilarious and bizarre, probably best described as one of those crazy satanic, pep rally chant type of songs. Plus, there's a story of a killer tacked on at the end. In the immortalized words of Kurt Cobain, "It's pretty scary."

Tool is on an extensive tour which will be heading our way soon. On the 15th of February they will be playing the Avalon in Boston and then the Strand in Providence, Rhode Island on the following night. From there it's on to New York for two shows on the 18th and 19th. Don't miss out on seeing the rise of an excellent band. Go see Tool in action.

"Degrade first the Arts if you'd Mankind Degrade Hire Idiots to Paint with cold light and hot shade: Give high Price for the worst, leave the best in disgrace, And with Labours of Ignorance fill every place."

- William Blake



# Announcements

"De Village Community Club of St. Kitts", eight to fourteen members strong, plans to arrive in Fitchburg this coming April 9, 1994 as part of FSC's Caribbean Culture Program that has seen over one-hundred FSC students, teachers, and professors travel to St. Kitts-Nevis, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. We need drivers with cars and vans to pick up the members up at the airport, provide transit during an area tour of sites of interest, and provide transit to Washington, D.C. We need groups or clubs to host dinners, receptions, and to request speakers and performances on an informal basis. We also need money to defray the costs. Also needed is room and board for four days here in the Fitchburg area for the students. If you can help, please call Charlie Hetzel at 342-2703.

The Long Range Planning committee is currently seeking opinions from the college community via the Strobe and the FSC Today relative to a total ban on smoking in all college buildings. If a majority of the college community does not express its disapproval, the committee will recommend to President Mara that smoking areas be eliminated in all buildings and that a Stop-Smoking program be made accessible to all smokers in the college community. Please send petitions to Dr. G. Tod Slone, LRP Chairperson, 198B McKay Building.

Applications are currently being accepted for Orientation Leader. Applications are available at Student Affairs and SGA. Deadline to submit an application is February 18.

Programs Committee currently has an opening on its executive board for Comedy Night Chairperson. Applications are available outside of the Programs Office, near the Craft Center. For more information, please call 343-0644.

The Newman Center & Chapel announces that Ash Wednesday Services will be held on February 16 at 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

Career Services Center presents Alumni "Pizza" Panels. You can find out about: job search strategies, the current job market, the variety of career options in the field, and making the transition from school to work. The next panel is "Film, Tape, TV: Career Possibilities" on Wednesday, Feb. 23, from 6:00 - 8:00, Miller Oval. It will be hosted by Professor Gunther Hoos.

# PERSONALS

To Care,  
What would you do in your last six minutes?

Dick,  
I had a nightmare - a purple ambulance.  
Billy

Three cheers for the 1994 Olympic Toga Team!

PC,  
I miss you, too.  
Splat

Who's that playing all that good music at Donnelly's?

61 Clinton girls,  
I'll let you be my Valentine this year. There's enough of me.  
G

All the girls look at this kid and go, ahhh...

Jeannie Beannie  
How 'bout those road trips?? Ft. Devens anyone?  
?

Karen,  
Love those plebes. Too bad there aren't more.  
K

Eric Hellweg,  
Miss those gyrating hips and incredible voice at our late night 'Strobe' sessions.  
Your previous partner in crime

To the girls of Aubuchon 8th Floor -  
'MOM' is finally gone! Hurray!!  
No wait - I was wrong - She's back! Oh, no!

Mark,  
Have you added to "the list" yet?  
-M

T-  
You're a great friend, but my room??  
M.

Kathy,  
Thanks for always listening to me!  
Luv Ya!

Kristen  
Happy 21st Birthday, Kathy!  
Love, Kristen

Eric,  
You don't eva bring a book to class, do ya?  
D

Michele-W-  
Whoomp! There it is!  
D

Steve,  
Miss studying with you! What have you been up to?  
Kristi

Happy 21st Birthday, Navy!  
Michelle

Shawn,  
Are you missing your Koosh yet?  
Michelle

Gen,  
You're the tour director next Tuesday. We'll have fun.  
K

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"THE BIG CHEEZ" would like to give a huge thanks to the following and anyone not mention who helped organize "THE BIG CHEEZ DANCEJAM": All Seasons Costume Shop; Campus Center - Mike, Reb, student managers, etc.; DAKA; Facilities; Gordon Music; Health Services; Programs; Pub Staff; Purchase Order Dept.; Student Activities/Alcohol Awareness - Holly Kriedler-Phaneuf; and WXPL. If you moved a chair, hung a poster, hooked up equipment, or danced, we thank you!  
-----Spider Dance Rat, MC Duga Dee, Jughead Peeper, and Chiquita Bonita.

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# Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

# THINGS THAT SUCK

"What's it like owning a yacht?" — Liza Minnelli "It doesn't suck." — Dudley Moore (from the film "Arthur")

Cutting someone off in your car, only to have them pull up beside you at the next traffic light. Then ya have to do that thing where you sit there staring straight ahead like you don't notice them there. But you know they're there, and they know you know and—**MAN** that traffic light takes a long time to change!



When someone walks in on you while your going to the bathroom.

Ooops! I'm sorry.

Oh hey! Come on in! Plenty-a-room! I'm using the toilet right now, but the tub's free!



People who can't take a joke.

People who have nothing better to do than read cartoons\*.

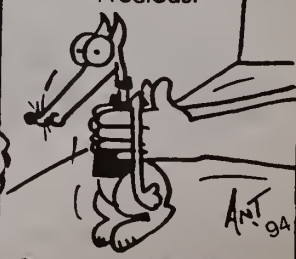
\*See previous listing.

Voice mail.

To be connected to the wrong extension press '1'.  
To be hung up on, press '2'.  
To be thoroughly and completely aggravated press '3'. If you need further assistance, too bad.



Lap dogs. The only difference between a lap dog and a rat is that rats don't wear little sweaters and answer to th name "Precious."



© Anthony Rubino, Jr. 1994



# Olympics captures America's attention

## Media focuses on Nancy Kerrigan

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

For the next two weeks, most of the citizens of this planet will have their attention focused on sports. We'll abruptly, but momentarily, separate ourselves from our daily routines to catch every moment we can of the 1994 Winter Olympic games.

It's a special time that occurs every few years that brings together many nations for one purpose - to see which country has the best athletes by awarding them medals for their outstanding achievements.

Athletes dedicate their lives to what they must do. There are long

hours of training and preparation, not only physically, but mentally. They sleep little and travel far.

The pressure is tremendous. The athletes are always under the watchful eye of the media because in the Olympics winning isn't everything, it's the only thing. These athletes don't just represent a team or a city, but an entire country of millions, hoping and praying that they can capture the gold.

But all the excitement of watching ice hockey, downhill skiing and the Jamaican bobsled team may be overshadowed by the media feeding frenzy on the Kerrigan-Harding showdown. Possibly.

I didn't even want to have these two names appear in the back

section of this paper because I, like everyone else, seems to have had enough of such an insignificant event amidst the every day occurrences of these tragic situations. However, my journalistic position leaves me no choice but to speak briefly because another problem that often seems to rear its ugly head in sports may unfold.

Unless Tonya Harding is removed from the Olympic team, the whole world will no doubt be subjected to hours of repetitive and inevitably boring commentary on these two athletes and the equally boring sport which they compete in.

The sad fact is that even if Harding competes and is clearly superior than the competition, she

will not win or beat Nancy Kerrigan for that matter, no pun intended. Even before this fiasco began, Kerrigan was no shoe-in for a medal. She is a great skater, perhaps the best for the United States, but her competition is awesome. In particular, the Ukrainian and Japanese skaters are phenomenal. Katarina Witt also returns to try and recapture the title of "ice queen."

But all the glory of the games may be lost in order for us to preserve the all-American girl image of Nancy Kerrigan imposed by the mass media. Because of this, I can't vision any judge not biasing towards Kerrigan. Can you?

What happened to Kerrigan

was unfair, but every athlete encounters difficulties on the way to his or her dreams. Setbacks happen to every dream seeker. It is those who overcome the hardships that are able to take the next step, but that doesn't automatically qualify someone to have their dream handed to them.

Hopefully, for the sake of fair sportsmanship, this won't happen. If Harding is removed on the basis that she didn't exhibit good sportsmanship, this shouldn't be justification for Kerrigan to be favored in any way. Because if sportsmanship is figured into the equation, let's practice what we preach and be fair to all the others.

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THE STROBE MAN - REVIEW

RIGGS  
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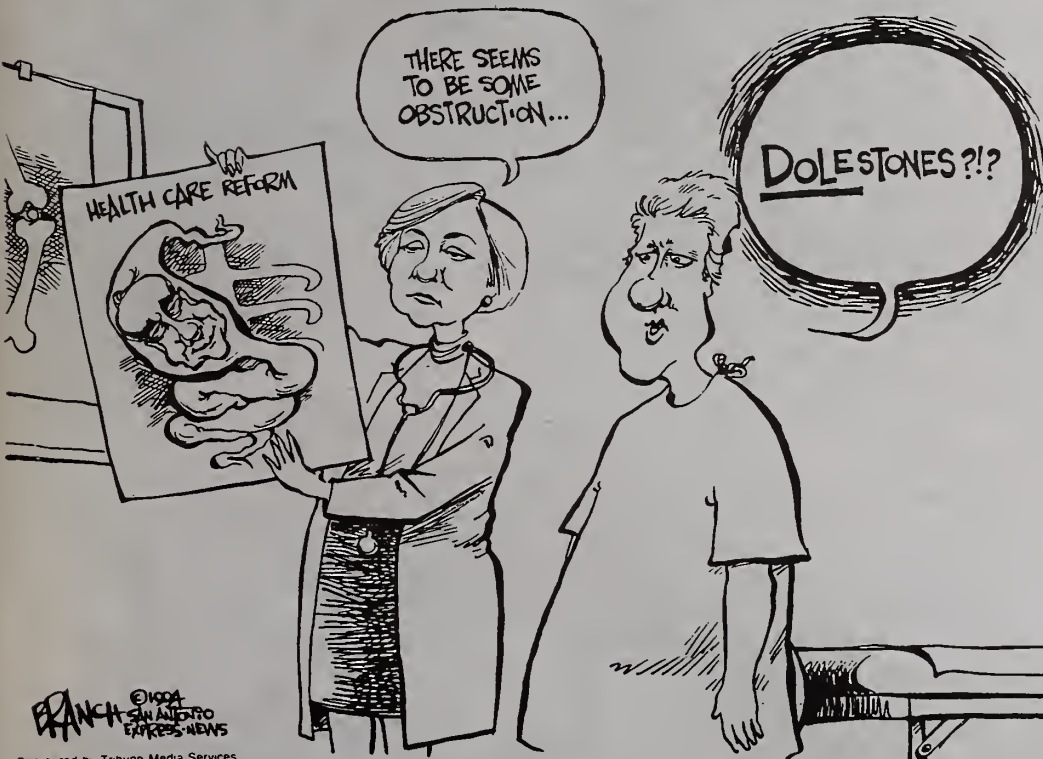
ONE HELLUVA TRIPLE AXEL,  
BUT TONYA NEEDS WORK  
ON HER LANDING...



THERE SEEMS  
TO BE SOME  
OBSTRUCTION...

DOLESTONES???

HEALTH CARE REFORM



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EXPRESS-NEWS

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### Frankly Speaking

by Phil Frank

THE COOK JUST SAW HER SHADOW!!  
SIX MORE WEEKS OF MEATLOAF!

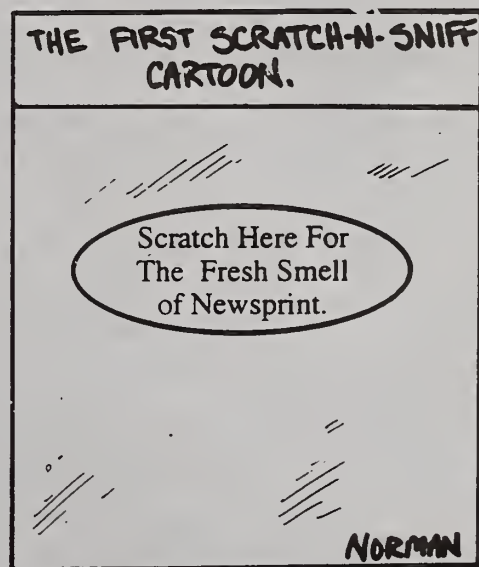


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### LACK OF FOCUS

THE FIRST SCRATCH-N-SNIFF  
CARTOON.

Scratch Here For  
The Fresh Smell  
of Newsprint.



NORMAN

©1994 JAMES T. NORMAN



# Falcon hockey attempts to fly once again

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

After a home loss to Southern Maine two weeks ago, the Falcon hockey team was looking to put together another streak of wins. Their first stop on their new quest was to travel to Milton, MA to take on the Colonels of Curry College.

These Colonels were just popcorn for the Falcons. Fitchburg got similar results against Curry as they did in their previous meeting. FSC thumped Curry 7-3 in their own building.

Defenseman D.J. Conte led the way for FSC with two goals. Steve Lowney had the game winner to extend his own scoring streak to ten games. Other scorers in this yawner were Matt Park, Paul Connor, Steve Lyden and Mark Pillsbury.

Goaltender Rob Horn was between the pipes for the Falcons.

Horn kicked away 16 shots to help FSC extend their record to 12-2-1.

Rob Horn got his second consecutive start at home against Assumption College. The junior goalkeeper made 39 saves as he was besieged by a small but very quick Assumption attack all game long.

Assumption was all fired up for the contest. They usually are when facing the Falcons. When these two teams meet, it's sure to be a rock 'em sock 'em grudge match.

However, Fitchburg came out flat and they never recovered. A 6-2 loss was in the making from the start. The only Falcon goals came off the sticks of Dan Genatossio (14) and Mark Pillsbury (8).

Due to snow, the game against North Adams was postponed on February 9. The men got together one night later in the snowy gullies of North Adams. Fitchburg was looking to rebound from a tough defeat at home against Assumption.



Falcon Bill Mastrangelo

photo by Eric Magiera

Aaron Abitz replaced Rob Horn after two starts in goal for the Falcons. Abitz was extremely hot as he turned aside 36 saves in a 2-2 tie. Fitchburg goals came from captain Steve Lowney and forward Steve Lyden.

"Abitz was on fire. He was awesome in nets," said Steve Lyden. "It's great having two goalies playing well at the same time. Goaltending is what gets teams through the playoffs."

The goaltending has been super

for FSC. While the team has suddenly started to struggle offensively, both Horn and Abitz are keeping the Falcons in games while they try to regain their usual scoring prowess.

## Sports Spotlight: Wendy Gagliani

FSC Sports Highlight: MASCAC championship in field hockey and outdoor track.

What I like most about FSC: Nursing Program

Career Ambitions: Masters in Nursing

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

Wendy Gagliani of Medway and Medway High School is a three sport athlete and nursing major at Fitchburg State College. Wendy is a sophomore who excels in field hockey and indoor and outdoor track.

The trek to FSC didn't come for Gagliani right out of high school.

Instead, Wendy opted to give Uncle Sam her services. In 1992, she enlisted in the army reserves where she spent eight weeks in basic training. Wendy later trained for eight weeks as an army medic. "The reserves gave me the discipline I needed to be able to succeed in the medical field."

Since coming to Fitchburg, Wendy has performed extremely well in both field hockey and track. She is a starting forward for the Falcon field hockey team where she supplies plenty of offensive punch that helps make FSC be the deadliest offense in the league.

On the track and field court Wendy is a championship hurdler. "The 55 meter hurdles is my best event." She also competes in the

100 and 400 meter hurdles in outdoor track.

Wendy contributes much of her recent success to coach Eric Lamy. "Coach Lamy has really been an inspiration. He has given me the confidence I need to take the next step." That next step for Gagliani is the Pentathlon at Brandeis University. Wendy will compete in the 55m hurdles, 800m run, long jump, high jump, and shot put. The 5m event will be held on February 19.

This fine athlete and student currently maintains a 3.0 grade point average and has no plans of slowing down her dedication to both school and athletics until she reaches her goal of becoming a nurse. If her past achievements are any indication, she should have no problem.



Wendy Gagliani

## Intramural program: an endangered species

by Michael Gordon  
Strobe staff

What I would like to know is, what's happened to our student body? Isn't anybody interested in intramural sports anymore? Apparently not.

The fall season only saw two sports take place. Softball had a good season. It made it the whole way through. Then there was basketball. It became a joke. Students began not attending games for whatever reasons and teams were dropping out like flies.

Presently, the only intramural sport is volleyball. Now the intramural program is becoming an en-

dangered entity on this campus. As of last week, intramural coordinator Randy Vullock has resigned. In his place will be head volleyball coach Bob Murray. Coach Murray will be the interim coordinator until the volleyball league crowns a champion. After that, it may be all over.

As of the moment, the school has advertised that the position as director is available. Until a competent, or willing replacement is found, however, the intramural program is in jeopardy for the remainder of the year.

Intramural sports is an integral part of any school community. Not only is it a great form of exercise and relief from school work, but it's an

excellent way to promote social interaction. Meeting once or twice a week in a gym or on the field is a good chance for students to make new friends within the college community.

Intramural sports also helps to maintain the competitive nature in all of us. Life is almost like a game. And like a game, life is competitive. Those who have the greatest competitive nature and apply themselves have the best chance of ultimately succeeding at anything. So let's get off the couches and into the swing of things this spring before it's too late. Besides, I, and my fellow dogs of the MGD have a hockey title to defend. Whoof!

## Falcon Sports

Upcoming Home Games:

Hockey: Feb. 19 UMAss-Boston 7:30  
Feb. 22 Nichols 7:30

Basketball: Feb. 15 Framingham 6:00  
Feb. 17 North Adams 6:00

Current Standings:

Team	Overall	League
Hockey	12-3-2	12-1-1
Men's Hoop	4-14	0-7
Women's Hoop	3-12	1-6









# SPORTS

THE STROBE

February 16, 1994

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